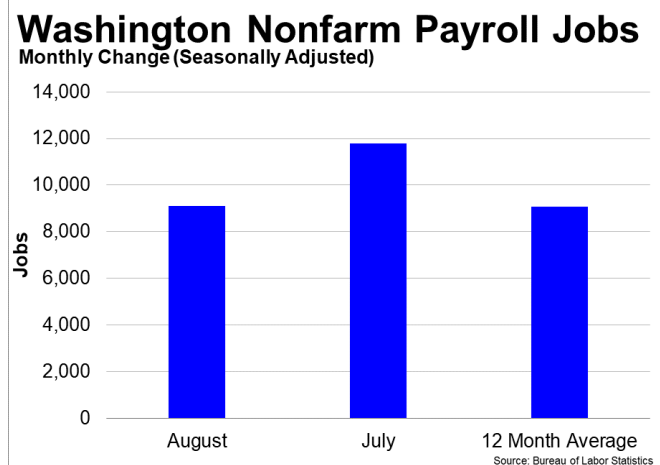
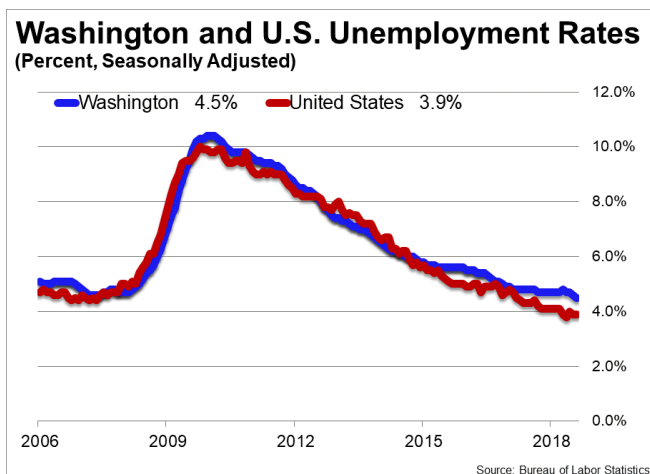




September 21, 2018

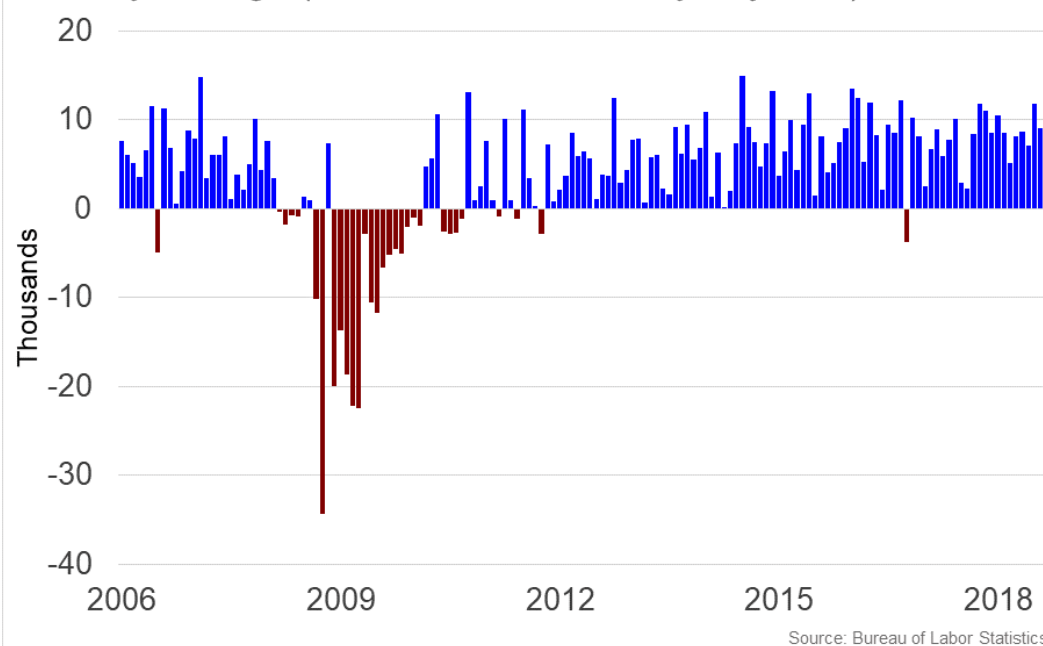
Summary

- **Washington added 9,100 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.1 percentage point to 4.5 percent in August** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Washington added 108,800 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.3 percentage point from 4.8 percent.
- **In August, Washington's private sector added 9,300 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 101,600 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Washingtonians fell by 4,054 in August**, and over the past year 31,358 Washingtonians found jobs.
- Washington's **labor force participation rate remains unchanged** from 63.3 percent in August. Since last year, the labor force participation rate fell 0.8 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **was unchanged at 3.9 percent in August**. State employment and unemployment data for September is scheduled for release on October 19, 2018. The national employment situation report for September will be released on Friday, October 5, 2018.



Washington Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

Monthly Change (Thousands, Seasonally Adjusted)



Washington Payroll Employment

Washington added 9,100 jobs, or 0.27 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during August. In the prior month, Washington added 11,800 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Washington increased by 108,800, or 3.27 percent. Washington nonfarm payroll employment has increased in each of the past 12 months.

Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 201,000 jobs in August, or 0.13 percent. Over the 12-month period ending August 2018, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,330,000 jobs, or 1.59 percent. Washington ranks 22nd among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During August, Washington's private-sector added 9,300 jobs, or 0.33 percent. The private-sector in Washington added 11,100 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Washington increased by 101,600, or 3.70 percent. Washington private-sector payroll employment has increased in each of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 204,000 jobs in August, or 0.16 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,329,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.87 percent. Washington ranks 25th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during August were Professional & Business Services (+3,300) and Construction (+2,900). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (-300) and Total Government (-200).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Professional & Business Services (+25,700) and Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+24,600). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Mining & Logging (unchanged) and Other Services (+1,900).



Washington Labor Force Statistics

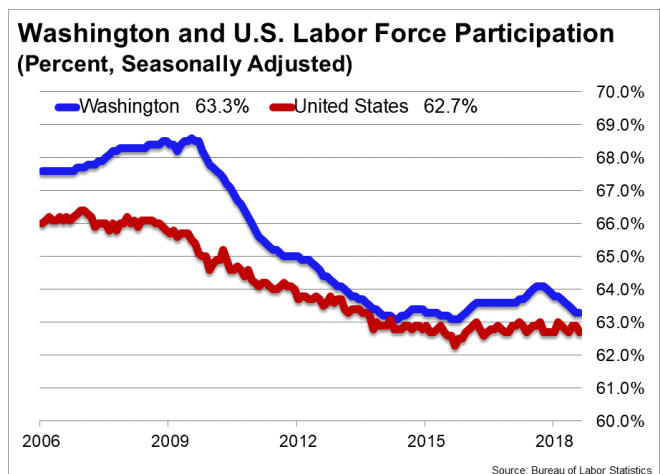
Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate in Washington was unchanged at 63.3 percent in August. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 26 have a higher labor force participation rate than Washington. The labor force participation rate in Washington is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Washington was 68.6 percent in July 2009. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Washington occurred in December 1998 when the labor force participation rate hit 70.5 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 63.1 percent in October 2015. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in April 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 60.6 percent. The national labor force participation rate declined by 0.2 percentage point to 62.7 percent in August 2018, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Washington civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, was unchanged at 60.4 percent in August. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 27 have higher



employment-to-population ratios than Washington. The employment-to-population ratio in Washington is 0.6 percentage point lower than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Washington was 64.5 percent in September 2008. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Washington occurred in February 1999 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 67.0 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 59.1 percent in January 2014. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in April 1976 when the employment-to-population ratio was 55.3 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio declined by 0.2 percentage point to 60.3 percent in August. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

